MINUTES OF THE

Oxford BAPTIST Association.

1888.

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PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

NINETEENTH ANNIVERSARY

—OF THE—

OXFORD

Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH—

YOCONA BAPTIST CHURCH,

LAFAYETTE COUNTY, MISS.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Before the 2d Sunday in Sept. 1888.

OFFICERS:

J. W. HIGGINBOTHAM, ... MODERATOR.
S. R. WHITTEN, ... CLERK.
E. J. LEIGH, ... TREAS.

1888.
SOUTHERN SENTINEL PRINT,
Ripley, Miss.

DIRECTORY

Moderator,.....J. W. Higginbotham,.....Taylor.
Clerk.....S. R. Whitten,.....Oxford.
Treasurer.....E. G. Leigh,.....Batesville.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

C. Crosby.....W. A. Simmons,.....E. L. Knight.

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

M. M. Randolph....H. B. Gowen.....J. P. Boydston,
A. H. Leigh,.....S. R. Whitten,.....J. W. Mitchell,
J. D. Woodruff,....F. F. White,.....J. H. Collins,
T. A. Hale,.....W. M. Vanderburge,.G. T. Birdsong,
G. H. Johnson,.....C. Crosby,.....G. W. Humphries,
R. H. Mitchell,

CENTRAL BOARD.

S. R. Lamb, S. P. Woodruff, E. M. Thornton, D. E. Holman,
H. L. Johnston.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Foreign Missions.....W. I. Hargis and S. R. Whitten.
State " .....W. T. Hudson and C. Crosby.
Sabbath Schools.....H. W. Rockett and E. M. Thornton.
General Education....H. L. Johnston and G. W. Hollowell.
Publications.....S. R. Lamb and J. D. Woodruff.
Temperance.....J. H. Collins and C. C. Greer.
Church History (Good Hope,).....S. P. Woodruff.
Woman's Work.....Mrs. L. J. Floyed.

MINISTERIAL REGISTRY.

Collins, J. H., ...Pope.
Hargis, W. I.,....University.
Hollowell, G. W.,....Walace.
Johnston, H. L., Water Val'y.
Greer, C. C.,.....Walace.
Leatherwood, M. G.,.....Pope.
Rockett, H. W.,.....Harrison.
Rowe, E. D.,..... "
Hudson, W. T., Water Valley.

TION.

....Taylor.
....Oxford.
....Batesville.

. E. L. Knight.

. Boydston,
. Mitchell,
. Collins,
Birdsong,
. Humphries,

E. Holman,

. Whitten.
C. Crosby.
Thornton.
Hollowell.
Woodruff.
. C. Greer.
Woodruff.
J. Floyed.

....Walace.
.....Pope.
..Harrison.
.. "

LICENTIATES.

Mabry, J. T.,.....Harrison. | Anderson, C. L.,.....Batesville.
Sizemore, B. C., Oxford.

NEXT MEETING.

Time—Thursday before 2nd Sunday in September, 1889.
Place—Good Hope, Panola, County, Mississippi.
Introductory Sermon—L. W. Metts.
Alternate—W. T. Hudson.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1st. Call for Petitionary Letters.
2nd. Receive Coorresponding Messengers.
3rd. Receive reports of Messengers to corresponding bodies.
4th Appoint a Finance Committee.
5th. Receive report of Exective Board.
6th. Receive Reports of Standing Committees.
7th. Receive Treasurer's Report.
8th. Receive Report of Finance Committee.
9th. Appoint Standing Committees.
10th. Appoint a place for next meeting.
11th. Appoint a brother to preach Introductory Sermon.
12th. Miscellaneous Business and Resolutions.
13th. Call and correct the Roll.
14th. Adjourn.

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MINUTES

—OF THE—

Oxford Baptist Association.

FIRST DAY.

The messengers from the churches composing the Oxford Baptist Association, convened with the Yocona church, at Taylor, Lafayette county, Thursday before the 2nd Sunday in September 1888 in their Nineteenth Annual session. Devotional exercises of onehalf hour was conducted by the former Mod. Bro. J. W. Higginbotham.

At 11 A. M. the introductory sermon was preached by W. T. Hudson, from Jno. 8; 31, 32. after some announcements the Association adjourned until one o'clock p. m. Benediction by L. Ball.

FIRST DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION 1:30.

The house was called to order by the former Moderator, who read the 23d. Psalm. After singing, "Blessed be the tie that binds," H. L. Finley led in prayer.

The corresponding letters were read by brethren S. R. Lamb and S. R. Whitten. There was much in the letters to make us glad and encourage our hearts, while there were some things that made us sad. After enrolling the delegates, the body was declared ready for permanent organization. W. T. Hudson and W. I. Hargis were appointed tellers. On the first ballot J. W. Higginbotham was elected Mod., S. R. Whitten Clerk, and E. G. Leigh, Treas.

The organization being perfected, the Mod. Clerk and Treas. in few and appropriate words expressed their thanks for the confidence reposed in them.

The deacons of Yocona church, with brethren J. D. Woodruff and J. W. Mitchell added, were appointed a devotional committee.

At this point, the Pastor W. I. Hargis, in behalf of the church extended a hearty welcome to the

Association, expressing the hope that their presence would be a blessing to the homes into which they might go, and to the community at large, also to the church and the cause of christianity.

H. W. Rockett moved that the order of business which governed the body at its last session, be the order for this session. Motion carried.

Corresponding Sec. J. T. Christian is with us to represent the Convention Board, Foreign Mission Journal and Baptist Record. Eld. Lewis Ball is present representing the same interests. Bro. Christian only remained one day.

Dr. Webb is here in the interest of Miss. College. H. L. Finley represents, Missionary and Colportage work in the Association. Mrs. M. J. Nelson, of N. O. represents the Missions of that city. Brethren, H. J. Smith of Coldwater Association and J. L. Logan of Chickasaw Association were received as messengers from those bodies, and invited to seats

J. H. Collins and W. I. Harris, spoke of having attended the Baptist State convention, and reported a very pleasant and profitable session. A finance committee consisting of brethren Crosby, Simmons and E. L. Knight, was appointed

There being certain colored brethren present, they were invited to seats

Devotional committee announced that Dr. Webb would preach at night, but was subsequently recalled and H. J. Smith of Arkabutla announced to preach in his stead.

W. T. Hudson moved that the report on Education be read at 9 o'clock to morrow morning, and that Dr. Webb be allowed to represent Miss. College at that hour.

The Clerk called out the standing committees, and the Moderator asked them to be ready to respond promptly with reports when called for.

Adjourned. Several announcements were made. Sang 'Children of the Heavenly King.' Benediction by J. T. Christian.

SECOND DAY 8:30 A. M.

One half hour was spent in devotional exercises conducted by the Mod. H. B. Gowen led in prayer. Minutes read and approved. At 9 o'clock the special order was taken up and the report on general education was read by W. S. Chapman (Appendix A.) The writer thinks "the Baptists have the best college that can be found in the South. "When I sent my boys to Miss. College, my anxieties for them were lessened."

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H. L. Finly says:—"Don't call Miss. College Bro. Webb's school; he only owns one 75,000th of it. It is OUR school.

Dr. Webb said:—"There is no influence in the state that is doing more to elevate the people than Miss. College, save religion. In order to feel an interest in the college you must know something about it. You give to Missions when you give to the college. A man goes out from Miss. College to elevate the people in Temperance, Education and Religion. 1500 preachers, in 40 years, went out from Madison College N. Y. 80 of whom become Foreign Missionaries. Our fathers were wise in founding a college. Are we worthy sons in supporting it?'

Brethren Rockett, Crosby and E. G. Leigh, each subscribed $5, to the College. Total $15. Bro. S. R. Lamb offered the following amendment to the report, viz., "That the churches of the Association be requested to make a contribution to the college." Amendment was adopted. Brethren Ball, Hudson and Rockett spoke to the report after which it was adopted.

The report of the Executive Board was read by the Pres. H. L. Johnson, (*Appendix B.*) In the report a summary of Bro. Finley's work was given which showed a good work done, but done under great difficulties.

The report was discussed by brethren, Finley, Hargis, Whitten, Hudson, Alvis, Higginbotham and others. Pending the adoption of the report the hour foradjourning arrived. Benediction by J. H. Collins.

SECOND DAY 1:30 P. M.

After singing, prayer was led by C. C. Greer. Resumed the consideration of the report of the Executive Board, Aftersevral short talks by different brethren, the following resolution by S. R. Lamb was adopted:

Resolved, That the churches of the Association be asked to decide how much can be raised by any plan whatsoever, for associational expenses and report at the next meeting of the Executive Board." The report was adopted.

On motion of S. R. Lamb the regular order was suspended that W. I. Hargis might offer the folllowing preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, the Oxford church, formerly a member of this body, and for reasons well known to the Association, severed her connection with this body, and joined the Yalobusha Association.

And Whereas, the matter of a union between the Oxford and Yalobusha Association is settled for the present, and perhaps forever:

Therefore be it resolved that we cordially invite the Oxford church to come back to this Association.

Resolved, 2. That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the Clerk of the Oxford church with such other explanation as may be necessary.

The following brethren were appointed to constitute the Executive Board of the Association for next year:—

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

Antioch—M. M. Randolph.
Big Springs—J. P Boydston.
Clear Creek—S. R. Whitten.
Liberty Hill—F. F. White.
Mt. Gilead—T. A. Hale.
Troy—G. H. Johnson.
Water Valley—C. Crosby.
Yocona—R. H Mitchell.
Bethany—H. B. Gowen.
Courtland—A. H. Leigh.
Concord—J. W. Mitchell.
Good Hope—J. D Woodruff.
Pope—J. H. Collins.
Spring Port—G. T. Birdsong
Yellow Leaf—G. W. Humphries.
Pilgrim's Rest—W M Vand'burg.

Central Board, located at Good Hope church: S. R. Lamb, S. P. Woodruff, E. M. Thornton, D. E. Holman and H. L. Johnston.

On motion of W. I. Hargis, the report on State Missions was made the special order for 9 A. M. Saturday.

The report on Foreign Missions was read by H. W. Rockett. (*See Appendix C.*)

Bro. Rockett says, when we work and labor for those far away from us, we increase in strength, in love and in good works.

Bro. Ball says, what a difficult task it would be to change our impressions of our God. That is what we must do, when we go into a foreign country, thus the slowness of the work.

Pledges taken for Foreign Missions as follows Bethany $25.00. Big Springs $15.00 Courtland, * Clear Creek $70,00, Concord $25,00 Goodhope $20,00, Liberty Hill $5,00, Mt. Gillead, * Pope $10,00, Pilgrim's Rest $8,00, Springport $5,00, Troy $5,00, Water Valley $40, Yellowleaf * Yocona * G. M. Alvis from Yocona church $2,50.

The hour for adjournment having arrived, on motion the time was extended one half hour to hear the report on Publications, which was read by W. I. Hargis (*See Appendix D.*) the report was discussed by Brethren Hargis, Lamb, Crosby, Johnston, Finley and others and amended by adding to the recommendations the Tennessee Baptist, and Kind Words Sunday School publications.

On motion agreed to have a night session, and the report on Temperance was made the special order for 7:30 P. M.

The committee on devotional exercises announced that Bro.

* Not prepared to pledge.

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Ball would preach to the colored people, at Bethany church near Taylor, as they had requested it.

Adjourned. Prayer and benediction.

EVENING SESSION 7:30.

After singing, Bro. Bobo led in prayer. After some discussion as to the propriety of postponing the report on Temperance, and resuming the consideration of the report on Publications, by common consent the special order was taken up, and the report on Temperance read by W. T. Hudson. (*See Appendix E.*)

Bro. Hudson thinks that while Baptists are more ignorant than they should be, they are on the right side of this question. Bro. H. J. Smith thinks the success of the temperance movement depends upon the christian women of the country.

Bro. H. L. Finley, thinks the temperance work will require time, but must succeed, Bro. W. S. Chapman, thinks we should say fewer pretty things, and do more Amen. Bro. J. G. F. Scott, says we should vote only for men who are committed to prohibition. Bro. S. R. Lamb, will not cast his vote for a man who will not give his influence for temperance.

Bro. H. W. Rockett, thinks we should enforce the resolution appended to the report, and that he proposed doing it in his churches. The Moderator, feels the same way about it.

Bro. G. W. Hollowell, wished to put himself on record for prohibition.

Bro. Gowen thinks we should inculcate temperance in the home.

Bro. H. L. Johnston, emphasized individual responsiblity. Adopted.

Adjourned.

APPENDIX A.

For generations and possibly now, many members of other denominations, standing on a narrow ledge of ignorance, we will not add and prejudice, because it might be considered uncharitable, so to speak, or write and might withal be lacking in satisfactory proof—with their eyes pen blind have flippantly declared that the Baptists were not educated up to that degree of intellectuality obtained by other Christian people, and that

they were also lacking in school facilities in their denomination and in this particular inferior to other denominations. So often has this been proclaimed, that indolent and credulous Baptists have been impressed, and have accepted a false statement as true and have under misapprehension and error, sent their children to Seminaries and Colleges of other denominations, in order that they might obtain *the best Education.*

It cannot be successfully controverted by anyone that for a long period the Baptists have had two Female Colleges in the United States superior in reputation to any and all others of whatever denomination or otherwise, whether sectarian or unsectarian. We refer to Vassar and Mary Sharp. The College at Winchester has a curriculum equal to those of the famed Male Colleges and Universities of the land. The other has a national reputation; and it would be difficult to determine which of the two is the better or the superior. The Baptists are also well equipped with Male Colleges and Universities and equal to those of other demominations in every material particular.

It might be well enough to turn to Missippippi Baptists and note their opportunities for an Education in their own jurisdiction. The question may be asked by a Mississippi Baptist if we are able in this State to compete with other denominations here in educational thoroughness. We answer affirmatively and add that if you have a boy ready for College, be sure to send him to Mississippi College, and we assign the following reasons:

1st. Because it is the best denominational Male College in the State for an intellectual education merely.

2nd. The moral training and religious influences are superior to those of any school we ever saw.

3rd. The physical development is assured by the heathfulness of the place.

Anxiety for the welfare of our boys—we tenderly love them and are willing to make any reasonable sacrifice for their advancement and permanent good—is lessened if we are assured that the conditions for health, moral and relizious training are improved by the change from home life to College life. There are enough living epistles all around you to force conviction at once on you if you doubt that the Mississippi College is the only College in this State for your boys.

If you have girls ready for an advanced education, send them them to Warren Female Institute at Oxford, Central FemaleInstitute, at Clinton or the Blue Mountain Female College at Blue Mountain. The question may be asked if the school at

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Columbus or Brookhaven is not superior to any of these: We answer in the negative—A Baptist brother of prominence that we know very well, sent two daughters to the I. I. & C. at Columbus—after remaining there a year, he withdrew and sent to Blue Mountain. He has decided on proper and sufficient evidence, that Blue Mountain is preferable from every material stand-point. *His* decision meets our approbation and accords with our belief. We can say from personal observation that the degree of excellence, which characterizes Blue Mountain as a superior school is to be found in the Central Female Institute. Of the Warren Female Institute in our midst we prefer to let others speak who surpass us greatly in all things, which constitute and make up thorough scholarship. Profs. Quinche and Sears of the University certify. "That some of these pupils of the Warren Female Institute, have entered the Freshman and Sophomore classes of the University and none have failed to take high rank." Both have patronized the Institute. Prof. Fulton is still a patron and equally as strong in his written commendation. Prof. Little a patron strongly endorses the Institute and commends it to his friends. Edward Mayes Esq., Prof. of Law and Chairman of the University Faculty says through a card of July 4th 1887. "That the Warren Female Institue is the most thorough school I ever knew. I have had two daughters there and am perfectly satisfied with the result." Prof. Wheat says: "I have been sending two sons for the last two years to Mrs. Lancaster. I prefer her school to any I ever sent to. She is thorough, exact; goes to the bottom of the subject. The pupil must study; no excuse or evasion avails. Her pupils have always taken the highest stand in the University. I could not say too much in favor of her school. Signed.

J. J. WHEAT Prof. of Philosophy.

July 4th 1887.

Such testimony of such honorable and intelligent men (and only one of these testifying is a Baptist), who are specialists in educational work ought to be conclusive of the subject matters referred to. They know of the great efficiency of this Institute and show an intelligent and appreciative faith by patronage. Their patronage costing them the catalogued price per scholar when they could send in their own town to another school free of charge attests the superiority of this school and the truth of their certifications. Doubtless there are other Baptist Female schools in the State very deserving, but our want of information relating to them forbids notice. We conclude this report by saying that in the pulpit, the Universities and Colleges—on

the bench—at the bar—in all the professions and avocations of life the Baptists throughout the land rank in intelligence and manhood every whit as nigh as the most favored religious sect in the United States and that that brother or sister who passes by a Baptist Institution of learning to enter the door of an Institution of some other denomination commits an error that operates against the interests of both parent and child. The Baptists of late have been wonderfully blessed. They are rapidly increasing in point of members and resources for which they should gratefully thank God—and now it is their province and right to aid each other in the grand enterprises brought about by Baptist pluck and zeal, and in thus aiding their brethren they advance their own interest materially. We do not ask you to support denominational enterprises, because other denominations support their own, but because by supporting ours, we support the very best; whether it be a Baptist newspaper or a Baptist seminary of learning. Respt. submitted,

W. S. CHAPMAN, Chm'n of Com. Education.

APPENDIX B

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

Your Board is glad to report that we were fortunate enough to secure the services of H. L. Finley to do Missionary and Colportage work in our Association for one-half his time this year. We co-operate with the State board, who pays half Bro. Finley's salary $150.00, we paying the other half. Bro. Finley's time closes with us the last of Dec., present year. Your board is much encouraged.

Our missionary is very faithful, and there seems to be a growing spirit among our people to rise up and occupy the field the Master has given us. Much has been done in circulating sound Baptist literature in our midst considering the short time Bro. Finley has been in our Association. A summary of his work we now submit:

No. of Days in Service	116
" " Miles Traveled	900
" " Bibles sold	26
" " Testaments sold	30
" " Bibles donated	7
" " Testaments donated	12

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" " Books sold S. D.	285
" " Pages of Tracts	10 140
" " Sermons preached	60
" " Addresses delivered	65
" " Prayer meeting talks	25
" " Families visited	170
" " Letters written	56
" " Baptisms	4
" " Circulars distributed	200
" " Sunday school papers	290
Amount of sales	$208.80
" " " Donations	$20.80

At a meeting of the Board at Clear Creek Church in April we asssisted Springport and Troy Churches each $15.00 towards paying their pastor C. C. Greer. The Church at Troy appealed to us to assist them in building a Church and we promised them $10.00. At a meeting of the Board, held in July at Pilgrims Rest, it was recommended that each Church give $2.00 towards building the Church at Troy; a part of this money has been raised.

TREASURERS REPORT.

		Dr.
To amount from	Big Springs	$25.00
" "	Mount Gilleod	5.00
" "	Good Hope	10.85
" "	Yellow-leaf	11.00
" "	Spring-port	10.05
" "	Troy	2.25
" "	Antioch	2.25
" "	E. G. Leigh, Treas. Association	10.50
" "	Pilgrims Rest	5.00
" "	Courtland	5.50
" "	Liberty Hill	6.90
" "	Clear Creek	64.00
" "	Water Valley	50.00
" "	Pope	5.00
" "	Bethany	15.00
Collection at Clear Creek Church		15.00
" "	Pilgrims Rest	1.35
TOTAL		244.65

		Cr.
By Am't paid to Missionary Pastor, C. C Greer for preaching to Springport and Troy		$30 00
By am't paid to Missionary Colporture H. L. Finly		150.00
" " State Board through J. T. Christian		50.00
Balence on hand		14 65
TOTAL		$ 244 65
There has been collected for Church building at Troy from:		
H. L. Finly	$ 50	
Clear Creek	2.00	
Concord	2.00	
Springport	2.00	
Pilgrims Rest	2.00	
Good Hope	2.00	
TOTAL	$ 10.50	

A good start has been made towards more active life, in the work of Missions, and the general development of our Churches.

Allow us to say, as we return the trust committed to us:

1st. The Mission and Colporture work ought to be carried on all the time. Our times demand it of us.

2nd. That the Pastors of our Churches help the Missionary in the distribution of Baptist literature.

3rd We recommend that the Churches furnish your future board with money to purchase cheap Bibles, Testaments and tracts to give away to those not able to buy.

4th. We also recommend continued co-operation with the State Board and if possible keep a suitable man in the field for all his time for the next year.

Respt. submitted.

H. L. JOHNSTON, PRES.

Z. D. JENNINGS, SEC.

APPENDIX C

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Foreign Missions fostered by the Southern Baptist Convention, with which our Association is identified, are planted in Mexico, Brazil, Italy, Africa and China. So far as the work done is concerned, the reports from the Missionaries for the past

conventional year, are cheering. More Baptisms were reported than for the previous year. But there is a great hindrance from the lack of a sufficient force. Appeals come from all of the fields for more men. The call for more men means more money.

We have lost by death some of our best and oldest missionaries, among the number Dr. Yates, a missionary in China forty years.

The Convention has recently appointed eleven men and three ladies to re enforce our work. As we increase our force in the field, we must of necessity increase our contributions at home. We have cause to congratulate our state on our work last year. We gave more for foreign Missions than we ever gave for this cause before in one year. Our Association has done well too the past year. We rank high among the Associations of the State in point of giving; but let us do more; forgetting the things that are behind let us press on to a higher mark. Let us talk about the work, and think about it, and pray over it till we all see the vision, and hear the Macedonian cry: "Come over and help us." We recommend to our Churches "The Foreign Mission Journal" as a good help in cultivating the Mission spirit among the people.

H. W. ROCKETT.

APPENDIX D.

PUBLICATIONS.

Sound reading is as necessary to a healthy mind as wholesome food is to a sound body. There is much poisonous literature afloat in the world. This class of reading matter is gotten up for the money there is in it and to meet a popular demand. One has but to keep his eyes open and scan closely the reading matter to be found in a majority of the homes of our people, upon the store counters, and in the railway cars, to be able to judge of the kind of food the minds of the people are feeding upon. And all this with little or no counter acting influence in the way of more wholesome reading. And since it is an admitted fact that the press is a great factor in forming public sentiment, and shaping the morals of the people, it is clearly to be seen where the people are drifting, and why such distorted ideas of moral and religious obligations are to be so frequently found. But it is sincerely hoped that the religious

press may, in a measure, at least, counteract this dangerous tendency.

In the matter of religious publications, in the form of newspapers and periodicals, Baptists are taking the lead. We have now about one hundred newspapers and periodicals. In point of ability they are the peers of any similar publications. The Baptist Quarterly Review, compares favorably with any similar publication and we have them ranging all the way down, suited to all tastes and capacities, to that of the primary Sunday School scholar.

On Sunday School literature published by the the American Baptist Publishing Society, 1420 Chestnut St. Philadelphia, and Kind Words series, published at Atlanta, Ga., is sufficient for all purposes.

These publications are being rapidly increased, and regularly improved in matter and mechanical execution.

The New York Examiner claims to have the largest circulation of any religious paper in the world. We are no longer compelled to look to non-Baptist authors for standard religious works. The Baptist series of commentaries on the new testament are claimed by competent critics, to be inferior to none in point of scholarly ability, and superior to all others in fair and impartial exigesis.

All of our denominational interests have their organ. Foreign Missions—the "Foreign Mission Journal" Home Missions "Our Home Field," Woman's Work—"The Heathen Helper," etc.

I shall close this brief report with the following recommendations:

1. That we jealously guard our homes against the introduction of unwholesome literature.

2. That each church in this Association see that good, sound reading matter is placed in every home, and especially in the hands of the young.

3. That every family of the Association take and read the So. Babtist Record, published at Meridian, also the Tenn. Baptist, published at Memphis. The Foreign Mission Journal, and that Sunday Schools use the publications of the American Babtist Publishing Society and those of the Home Board published at Atlanta, Ga.

But above all a more careful and prayerful reading of the bible. *Let nothing take its place.*

I close with the words of a writer in the "West Minister Review," for July 1885. 'If we in the present day go wrong, it

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is not for the want of warning, for we are deluged with advice as to what we should read." Respectfully submitted.

W. I. HARGIS.

APPENDIX E.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

The criminality of the liquor traffic is no longer debatable ground. Even the U. S. Supreme court says: "We cannot shut out of view the fact *within the knowledge of all* that the public health, public morals and public safety may be endangered by the general use of intoxicating drinks; nor the fact established by statistics *accessible to every one*, that the idleness, disorder, pauperism and crime existing in the country are in some degree at least traceable to this *evil*."

The Supreme Court of Iowa, speaking of the use of intoxicating drinks says: "It is the prolific source of crime, pauperism and insanity, and deterioates mentally and physically the human stock." The admission is now quite general that it "desolates the home and desecrates the ballot," and makes the wail of the worse than widow and the unclad hungry child ascend to heaven.

What may be done to check, what to destroy the whiskey traffic? *That* is the question now asked by the Christian, the philanthropist.

First. Your committee think we must ourselves abstain from the dram drinking habit. There is no precept like example.

Secondly. We should appeal to science, teach the evil effects of alcohol to our children. Yes, teach, teach the children; let us strive that the next generation are not drunkards. Teach them—then protect them from temptation by obolishing the saloon from the land. Add to this, "moral suasion" and you have all the methods known to your Committee for fighting this appalling evil. Let us adopt all these methods—the appeals to science, to reason and to law with self-restraint; and continue in the van guard in the irrepressible conflict, till our homes and our boys are saved.

Your committee notes with special pleasure the wide spread

increased interest and general advance of the temperance movement all along the line. The conflict may be long and bitter, but the Everlasting Arm is in it, and will prevail. All the churches are united here.

The present is the auspicious time in Mississippi. The eyes of the immigrant from abroad are upon this sunny land as never before.

Our religious liberty and indeed our civil institutions will be safer to ourselves and our posterity, if this gigantic evil be routed, before the influx of population is much larger.

God speed the day of triumph! (signed.)

W. T. HUDSON

RESOLVED, that it is the sense of this Association, that it is unchristian conduct for a church member to sign a whiskey petition, vote for the legalized sale of intoxicants as a beverage, or in any way give countenance or encouragement to this iniquitous traffic; and churches should enforce discipline against members guilty of lending their influence to the liquor traffic.

APPENDIX F.

STATE MISSIONS.

Your committee on State Missions report that the State Board has had in its employment sixty-four missionaries during the past year, with J. N. Christian secretary.

The following is a summary of work done by the Missionaries in the state as reported in Southern Baptist Record:—

Days of service, 4,823; Miles traveled, 48,198; Number of stations, 214; Sermons preached, 2,740; Prayer-meetings held, 1,392; Families visited, 7,218; Baptized in connection with work, 814; Received by letter, 322; Restored, 52; total 1188; Sabbath-school addresses, 134; Pages of tracts distributed, 40,326; Money collected for personal services, $1,639.75; Money collected for state Missions, $1,429.60; houses of worship built, 15; houses of worship repaired, 7.

From the Treas. report to State Board it will be seen that for church buildings and all other purposes, home and foreign excepted, $30,263.95, have been paid by the Baptists of the state for the work of the Lord. Certainly our God is opening the

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hearts and purses of his people to carry out the great commission, "Preach the Gospel to every creature.' The work is being prospered in our hands; sinners are being saved; the cause of education advanced. We can truly say that the past year has been one of our best in state mission work. While this is encouraging, and in a degree flattering to us as Baptists, and yet we are bound to say all has not been accomplished that could have been. There are in this state 75,508 Baptists; we have paid $30,263,95, which is only a little more than 40 cts. per member for our state work. As much as has been done we can not look to our blessed Lord and say, as people we have done our full duty. Let us as individual members of the body of Christ resolve to do more toward the spreading of the gospel in our state; giving for the work, not the little we can easily do without, but let us give liberally and cheerfully for the glory of God and the welfare of our people.

H. L. JOHNSTON,
J. J. ROTENBERRY.

APPENDIX G.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

CHILDREN NEED A SAVIOR. To bring them to Christ is the primary aim of the sunday school worker. We, as Christians, must not be mere fingerboards, we must be cheerful guides. If we lead the lost, the sin-burdened to Jesus, we must know the way ourselves. We have another aim as Baptists. I have said that our first aim is to lead sinners to Christ; after this is done, they should be taught the Baptist doctrine. Our commission requires us to "Teach all things, whatsoever I have commanded you." Since the days of Wm. Fon of Scotland and Robert Raikes of England, the alleged founders of our present system of sunday schools, the progress of this department of church work has been phenomenal. About one hundred years marks the era of sunday school work in the United States, and now we have over 5000 Baptist schools. While of all denominations in the United States there are 99,860 schools, with an average of 80 scholars to the school, or 8,048,462 scholars in all. These scholars are taught by 1,108,262 teachers, or one teacher to about 8 scholars. Think of the magnitude of this work! One of the characteristics of our free land is its sunday school system. In-

after awhile we'll come out more than victorious."

W. T. Hudson thinks we Baptist have a good thing of it in Miss.

Bro. Ball is glad to find our Association alive in general state and mission work. He thinks the bulk of the work to be done in the state is with the colored people

Brethren Edwards, Carothers and some ladies from Oxford being present, Moderator welcomed them and any others who might be present to our deliberations, also N. E. Miles (c.) from the Tallahatchie Association, was received as a corresponding messenger from that body.

Bro. Edwards thinks, the fact that so much has been achieved, in our state mission work, is an argument that we should do more. It is the Lords part to impress the men to do this great work, it is ours to send them.

Pledges were taken for state missions from the churches as follows: Antioch, * Bethany, $25.00, Clear Creek, $50.00, Concord, $10,00, Courtland, * Good Hope, $20.00, Liberty Hill, $3.00, Mount Gillead, $5.00, Pope, $10,00. Pilgrim's Rest, $12.00, Spring Port. $5.00, Troy, $5.00, Water Valley, $50.00, Yellow-Leaf, * Yocona, $10.00, Big Springs, $15.00.

Report adopted.

*Not prepared to pledge.

A motion to suspend the rules to fix the place of next meeting carried.

Time, Thursday before the 2nd Sunday in Sept. 1889. Place, Good Hope church. Adjourned. Benediction by J. H. Edwards.

THIRD DAY, (AFTERNOON SESSION.)

Prayer by Bro. Leatherwood.

On motion of Bro. J. H. Collins, our Moderator was elected delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention which meets in Memphis in May, 1889. Report on Sunday schools read by S. R. Whitten. (*See Appendix G*) Discussed by Bros. Whitten, Greer, Jones, Hollowell. Bro. Edwards says the S. S. question is a question of self sacrifice and consecration.

Report adopted.

A motion by G. W. Hollowell provided that each church pay $1.00, the amount to be divided between the former and

present clerks, motion carried.

Treas. E. G. Leigh read his report, which was adopted. (*See Appendix H.*)

Read and adopted the report of Finance Committee. (*See Appendix H.*)

The following standing committees were appointed:

Bro. L M. Metts was appoited to preach the introductory sermon next year, W. T. Hudson alternate.

The following resolution was read and adopted: (*See Directory.*)

Resolved, That we tender our sincere thanks to the good people of this church and place for the very hospitable manner in which they have entertained this body.

The Moderator made some very appropriate remarks relative to the solemnity of partlng.

The parting hand was extended while singing the "Sweet bye and bye," and Bro. Ball dismissed the Association by offering a most earnest and effectual prayer.

J. W. HIGGINBOTHAM, MODERATOR.
S. R. WHITTEN, CLERK.

DIGEST OF LETTERS.

BETHANY—Reports no accessions, a diminution of seven. Financial report good.

CONCORD—Had a meeting of days. Much good done. Nine additions, Diminution six. Church advancing.

PILGRIMS REST—Had a meeting of days. Church revived. Good Sunday School. Church on the upward grade. Additions, eleven. Diminutions, 8. Financial report, Good,

MT. GILEAD—Had a meeting of days. Expresses strong desire to become more efficient in the Masters service. No additions, Diminutions, one. Small membership. Financial report, fairly good.

COURTLAND—Has had no meeting of days Only two or three full meetings during the year on account of inclement weather. Additions, 2. Diminutions, 4. Financial report an advance over last year. Spiritual condition, good.

BIG SPRINGS—No meeting of days reported. No Sunday School reported. Additions, one. Diminutions, 4. Financial report, good.

LIBERTY HILL Church in better condition than for many years. Had a meeting of days. Church revived. Additions four. Diminutions six. Financial report, small.

YELLOWLEAF—Advancing. Had meeting of days. Additions, fourteen. Diminutions, one. No Sunday school. Financial report, small.

POPE—Had a meeting. Church strengthened. and hopeful. Additions, ten. Diminution, one. Good Sunday School. Financial report, good.

TROY—Had a meeting of days. Church revived. Needs a larger house of worship. Will build. No additions or diminutions. No Sunday School reported. Financial report, small.

GOOD HOPE—Had an interesting meeting of days. Reports an evergreen Sundayschool. Takes a monthly Mission collection. Financial report small for the number of members. Additions, nine. Diminutions, five.

WATER VALLEY—No meeting of days. An evergreen Sundayschool. Very good financial report. Additions, thirty-four. Diminutions, ten. Reports a ladies missionary society.

CLEAR CREEK—Had a meeting of days, great good accomplished. Church becoming thoroughly united. Has a pastor for half his time. Additions, 15. Diminutions 12. Has quite an efficient sundayschool. The church is advancing in spirituality. Financial report the best ever made by the church.

SPRING PORT—No meeting of days reported. No sundayschool reported. Addition, four. Diminutions, six. Financial report fairly good. Church seems to be advancing. Letter very brief.

YOCONA—Has had no meeting of days. In a good spiritual condition. Church and ladies prayer meeting weekly. A live sunday school. A ladies aid society has been recently formed. Additions, six. Diminutions, two. Financial report better than for many years.

Fifteen churches reported, net increase, 50.

Prepared by Elder W. I. Harris, Clerk.

RULES OF DECORUM.

ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

ART. 2. The Moderator shall be considered judge of order, and shall have discretionary right to call to order at any time.

ART. 3. Any member not satisfied with his decision, may appeal to the Association the same day, but at no other time.

ART. 4. The Moderator shall have the same privilege of speech as any other member of the body provided he call some brother to the chair; but shall not be permitted to vote except in case of a tie.

ART 5 Every motion made in order and seconded, after sufficient time for discussion, shall be by the Moderator put to the vote of the Association, a majority of whom shall govern and the decision shall be publicly announced by the Moderator.

ART. 6. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet and address the Moderator, and the Moderator, when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person or otherwise

ART. 7. Every member in addressing the body must confine his remarks to the subject under discussion, and no member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or use words of personal reflection.

ART. 8. The appellation "Brother" shall be used in our addreses.

ART. 9. No member shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject without leave from the Association, nor more than once until all have had an opportunity of speaking.

ART. 10 No member shall be at liberty to absent himself during the hours of business, without leave from the Moderator.

ART. 11. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a correct record of the proceedings of the Association, and submit the same for the correction of the Association at the close of each session, and to preserve a file of all proceedings of the body.

ART. 12. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all moneys presented for Associational purposes and pay them over by the order of the body.

ART 13 In case of a motion to suspend any rule of the Association, a vote of two-thirds shall be necessary.

ART. 14. The roll of delegates shall be called at the close of each session and absentees without permission, shall be designated upon the minutes as such, without leave from the Moderator.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be called the Oxford Baptist Association, which shall meet annually. The object of this union shall be to cultivate fraternal intercourse and love between the churches composing this body, and to unite their efforts in the great work of advancing the Redeemer's kingdom In the prosecution of these objects, the dissemination of the Gospel by missionary operations, both at home and abroad, shall receive their encouragement fostering care and support. It shall also be the aim of this Association to promote the cause of Sabbath Schools; also the interest of general education, and more especially the education of the ministry. All christian and charitable enterprises shall receive their encouragement, among which the support of superannuated and worn out ministers will receive especial attention.

ART- 2 Each church belonging to this Association shall be entitled to three representatives until the number of members reaches 50, and one delegate for every additional fifty; Provided, In no case shall any church have more than five delegates

ART. 3 The delegates present representing churches shall, during, the session, present their letters of correspondence, which must state their appointment, together with the number of members in fellowship; the number baptized; received by letter; restored; dismissed by letter;

excluded and died during the year.

ART. 4. Any church of this Association failing to represent herself at one meeting, will be expected to state the reason thereof at the next meeting; and any church thus failing at two successive meetings, the Association may consider her dropped from her number, or may appoint a committee to inquire into the cause of such failure

ART. 5 Other churches approving our Articles of Faith, and desiring to live and act in fellowship with us, may be admitted into this body by signifying their approval and desire by delegates and letters.

ART. 6. This Association shall have a Moderator Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be chosen by ballot at each annual meeting as soon as the letters from the churches are read and the names of the delegates enrolled. A majority of the votes cast being necessary to an election.

ART. 7. Membership in this Association shall be essential to eligibility to any office within the body.

ART. 8. The same individual shall not be chosen Moderator more than three years in succession.

ART. 9. This Association shall have no power to adopt rules, or institute proceedings that shall infringe upon the independence or rights of churches; but it may, when requested by a church in its letter of correspondence, and not otherwise, give advice to such body, and it may separate from such churches as are known to walk disorderly.

ART. 10. This Association may correspond by letter and messenger with other representative bodies of the Baptist denomination.

ART. 11. This Association shall, at its annual meetings, appoint an Executive Board, composed of as many members as there shall be churches represented, with five additional members living in the same vicinity, any five of whom shall constitute a quorum. Each church shall have the privilege of nominating its own member of the Board. Said board shall elect its own officers and shall have power to transact the business of the Association, when the Association is not in session, and for this purpose shall meet as often as its chairman shall deem necessary. An annual report of the proceedings of the board shall be made to the Association.

ART. 12. The constitution may be altered or amended at any regular meeting by a majority of two-thirds of the members present; provided the proposition to change be made at a previous meeting.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STATISTICS.

CHURCES.	Missions....	S. S. Exp'ns.	Literature...	Av. Attend'c.	No. Scholars.	No. Teachr's.	No. Officers..
Clear Creek.....	$29 50	$17 45	A. B. P. Soc.	39	56	7	3
Good Hope.....	20 00	....	Kind Words	28	57	5	3
Pilgrim's Rest.....	8 00	3 85	A.B.P.Soc.	..			
Water Valley.....	....	25 00		..			
Yocona	6 80	9 00	Kind words.	..	58	5	3
	$64 30	$55 30		67	171	7	9

The above are the only Sunday school statistics embodied in the letters. Please send full and accurate statistics next year.

CLERK.

LIST OF CHURCHES AND DELEGATES.

BETHANY.—H. W. Rockett, W. J. Smith, H. B. Gowen.
BIG SPRINGS.—H. L. Johnston, T. L. Boydston, J. T. Cochran.
COURTLAND.—E. G. Leigh, E. T. Leigh, A T. Bobo.
CLEAR CREEK.—W. I. Hargis, J. G. Holleman, S. R. Whitten, Z. A. McElroy.
CONCORD.—J. W. Mitchell, J. W. Stogner, H. I. Gardner, J. W. Higginbotham.
GOOD HOPE.—S. R. Lamb, J. A. Woodruff, C. L. Anderson, J. D. Woodruff, D E. Hollman, A. J. Joslin, J. A. Woodruff.
LIBERTY HILL.—W. H. Tyler, F. F. White.
MT. GILLEAD.—A. B Smith. W. L. Hudson.
POPE.—J. H. Collins, Mrs Fannie R. Tyrone.
PILGRIMS REST.—G. W. Hollowell, M. G. Leatherwood, J. R. Jones, P. A. Johnson.
SPRING PORT.—G. T. Birdsong, C. C. Greer, W. J. Johnson.
TROY.—G. H. Johnson, W. Simmons. J. H. Dodson.
WATER VALLEY.—C Crosby, J. W. Gillen, Jessie Wilks. W. S. Chapman, A, Fulmer, W. T. Hudson.
YELLOW LEAF.—O. W. Humphreys. L. W. Metts, E. L. Knight.
YOCONA.—W. C. Taylor, G. M. Alvis, W. H. Carothers.

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T. Cochran.

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CHURCHES.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	POST OFFICE.	COUNTY.	Days of Meeting....	Baptized....	Rec'd by Let.	Restored....	Dismissed....	Excluded ...
*Antioch	C. C. Greer....	M. M. Randolph....	Courtland	Panola.....	3d	6	3		3	
Bethany	H. W. Rockett..	D. W. Patterson....	Harrison.....	Panola.....	2d, 4th				2	4
Big Springs...	H. L. Johnston.	E. W. Barton.....	Water Valley...	Yallobusha.	1st	1			3	1
Clear Creek...	W. I. Hargis...	R. B. Sizemore.....	Oxford.....	Lafayette..	1st, 3d	11	3	1	2	8
Concord	G. W. Hollowell	J. W. Higginbotham	Taylor	Lafayette..	4 h	6		3	1	3
Court'and.....	W. I. Hargis....	S P. Causler.....	Courtland	Panola	4th	1	1		2	1
Good Hope....	H. L. Johnston.	J. D. Woodruff.....	Batesville	Panola	3d	4	5		2	3
Liberty Hill..	H. L. Johnston.	J. T. White.....	Eureka.....	Panola	2nd	4			4	
Mount Gilead..	H. L. Johnston.	A. F. Alexander...	Water Valley...	Yallobusha	4th				1	
Pope	H. W. Rockett..	J. H. Collins.....	Pope.....	Panola	1st	9	1			
Pilgrim's Rest	G. W. Hollowell	W. M Vanderburg.	Reynolds	Panola	1st	3	7	1		7
Spring Port...	C. C. Greer	E. F. Wallace.....	Wallace	Panola	2d, 4th	1	3		5	1
Troy.....	C. C. Greer	G. H. Johnson.....	Central Academy	Panola	3d					
Water Valley..	W. T. Hudson..	J. Bartlett.....	Water Valley....	Yallobusha.	1, 2,3,4	34			8	2
Yellow Leaf...	C. W. Smith....	E. L. Knight.....	Oxford	Lafayette..	4 h	11	3			
Yocona	W. I. Hargis....	J. S. Wilson	Taylor	Lafayette..	2d	2	4		2	
						93	30	5	35	30

* When last reported in 1886.

tical Table.

OUNTY.	Days of Meeting....	Baptized....	Rec'd by Let.	Restored....	Dismiss-d...	Excluded ...	Died	Total Membership.	Paid Pastor.	Home Expenses..	Foreign Missions..	State Mis'ns.	Ministerial Education	Mississippi College....	Minutes	Church Property	Grand Total.
ola.....	3d	6	3		3		2	45	$ 65 00	2 00	2 00				1 50		$ 70 50
ola.....	2d, 4th				2	4	1	97	250 00	50 00	20 00	15 00			3 20		338 00
obusha.	1st	1			3	1		45			15 00	25 00			2 00	$ 700	742 00
yette..	1st, 3d	11	3	1	2	8	2	90	250 00	33 85	75 00	64 00			3 00	4500	4925 85
yette..	4 h	6		3	1	3	2	88	100 00		10 00	10 00			1 50	1100	1221 50
ola	4th	1	1		2	1	1	28	150 00	10 00	17 20	5 25	4 00	40 00	2 00	350	538 45
ola	3d	4	5		2	3		90	100 00		11 50	11 50			2 50		125 50
ola	2nd	4			4		2	45			5 00	2 00					7 00
obusha	4th				1			38	102 60		10 10	5 00			1 00		118 60
ola	1st	9	1				1	70	100 00	14 50		7 00			2 00		123 50
ola	1st	3	7	1		7	1	67	100 00		16 00	17 00			2 00		135 00
ola	2d, 4th	1	3		5	1		27	50 00		3 25	7 25			1 00		61 50
ola	3d							15	22 50		2 50	2 00					27 00
obusha.	1, 2,3,4	34			8	2		170	600 00	29 00	50 00	50 00	15 00	25 00	2 00	1500	2271 00
yette..	4 h	11	3				1	70	150 00		5 00	10 00			2 00		167 00
yette..	2d	2	4		2			40	100 00	102 75	22 20	13 10				700	938 05
		93	30	5	35	30	13	1026	2140 10	242 10	264 75	244 10	19 00	65 00	25 70	91 50	11786 45